

GED PROGRAM INFORMATION

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- The General Educational Development Testing Service (GEDTS) of the American Council on Education was established to develop the GED tests and to collect, produce and disseminate research information on those who take, as well as those who pass, the GED tests.
- The GED tests were first developed in 1942 to provide returning World War II veterans who had not earned a high school diploma before entering military service with the opportunity to earn a high school credential.
- The purpose of the GED tests, essentially unchanged for 60 years, is to measure the academic skills and knowledge developed in a four-year program of high school education in the core content areas of U.S. and Canadian high school curricula. The areas tested are: Writing, Literature, Science, Mathematics and Social Studies.
- Nearly 15 million people have earned high school equivalency diplomas since the program began. Each year, approximately 800,000 adults complete the GED tests battery, and more than half a million obtain high school credentials based on passing the tests.
- In 1949, the initial year of information gathering, there were 570 Official Testing Centers; in 2001, there were 3,378 worldwide. Idaho has eight testing centers, located on college and university campuses throughout the state.
- According to GEDTS Scoring.com, 8311 people in Idaho took at least one GED exam in 2004-05, 6272 completed the GED (pass & fail), and 5700 passed their GED (90.8%).
- Idaho has one of the highest participation rates in the nation among the adult population that does not have a high school diploma.